

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 18 and 19, without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend Claims 4, 5, and 7 through 9 to read, as follows.

Claims 1 through 3. **(Cancelled)**

4. **(Currently Amended)** A manufacturing method for a toner container provided with an opening, said method comprising:

a fixing step of fixing a position of the toner container and substantially preventing movement of the toner container;

a filling step of filling toner into the toner container, at a position of which is fixed by said fixing step, with toner through the opening, wherein the toner has a true specific gravity[[.]] which is not more than 2<sub>g</sub> and has a particle size which is not more than 20 microns;

a closing step of setting a cover member and closing the opening with the cover member, after said filling step;

a pressing step of pressing the cover member to the toner container by a pressing member after the cover member is set in the toner container in said closing step; and

a sealing step of gradually welding the cover member and the toner container with each other by an ultrasonic vibration welding member which is in contact with a part of a portion to be welded while changing the contact portion around the opening;

wherein in said sealing step, the pressing member presses the cover member at upstream and downstream portions, with respect to a movement direction of the welding member, of the portion to be welded outside the part where the welding member is in contact with the part of the portion to be welded.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A manufacturing method for a toner container provided with an opening, said method comprising: according to Claim 4,

a filling step of filling the toner container with toner through the opening, wherein the toner has a true specific gravity which is not more than 2, and has a particle size which is not more than 20 microns;

a closing step of setting a cover member and closing the opening with the cover member, after said filling step;

a pressing step of pressing the cover member to the toner container by a pressing mechanism after the cover member is set in the toner container in said closing step; and

a sealing step of gradually welding the cover member and the toner container to each other by a ultrasonic vibration welding member which is in contact with a part of a portion to be welded while changing the contact portion around the opening,

wherein in said pressing step, the pressing mechanism uses a ~~uses~~ a plurality of pressing members, wherein the plurality of pressing members are movable independently from each other between a pressing position for pressing the cover member and a retracted position where they do not press the cover member, wherein a pressing member of the plurality of pressing members ~~wherein a pressing member which~~ corresponds to the portion

where the welding member is in contact with the cover member is not pressed, and the other pressing members press the cover member.

6. **(Canceled)**

7. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claim 4 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein in said sealing step, the welding member is circulated around the opening to return to a start point of welding.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claim 4 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the welding member has a projected free end.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to Claim 4 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein the opening functions to permit removal of a mold during injection molding of the toner container.

Claims 10 through 19. **(Canceled)**